

Dear Mr Bailey

RE: NEW LAWS REGARDING CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

I am writing to you regarding changes to the child safe environment provisions of the *Children's Protection Act 1993*, which take effect on the 11 April 2015. You may be aware of these changes through recent advertisements and a whole of government email delivered early this month.

As you would be aware, organisations providing sporting or recreational services wholly or partly for children are already required to take steps to establish and maintain a safe environment for children. These steps include:

- having in place child safe policies and procedures
- ensuring child-related employment screening is conducted for people undertaking functions prescribed in the *Children's Protection Act 1993*
- lodging a Child Safe Environments Compliance Statement with the Department for Education and Child Development.

From 11 April 2015, new laws relating to child safe environments will commence.

These changes will require sole traders, people working in partnerships and responsible authorities for organisations who provide certain services (including sporting or recreational services) to obtain 'prescribed evidence' relating to their relevant history before delivering services for children.

The prescribed evidence can be either a criminal history report or a child related employment screening conducted by the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI) Screening Unit.

Parents, guardians and carers will be able to request in writing that sole traders, members of partnerships and responsible authorities for organisations show them a copy of their child related employment screening or criminal history report.

I have enclosed for your information a fact sheet about the new laws. I ask that you distribute this information to your member organisations and across your networks. If you have not already done so, I also encourage you to ensure that your policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and inclusive of any relevant changes to child protection laws.

Sporting and recreational organisations play an important role in contributing to the growth and development of children in our community. I would like to take this opportunity thank you for your contribution to providing safe environments for children.

**DECLARATION OF CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT COMPLIANCE TO
SUPPORT AN AFFILIATE GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE OFFICE
FOR RECREATION AND SPORT**

I declare that a **Child Safe Environment Compliance Statement** has been lodged with the Department for Education and Child Development on behalf of

Pony Club Association of South Australia Incorporated, (State Association/Peak body) to meet the requirements of the *Children's Protection Act 1993*.

This statement was lodged as a multiple organisation statement and I confirm that

_____ (club) was named in this statement as an affiliate of our Association and is covered by this statement, therefore indicating that I am satisfied they are aware of their obligation to create and maintain a child safe environment.



_____ (Executive Officer/President signature)

_____ Greg Bailey _____

27/7/15 (Name printed)